



**RAFFLES GIRLS' PRIMARY SCHOOL
SEMESTRAL ASSESSMENT (1)
2010**

Your Score Out of 95 marks		
	Class	Level
Highest score		
Average score		
Parent's Signature		

Name: _____ () Class: P5 _____

6th May 2010

English Language

ATT : 1 h 50 min

BOOKLET A

Instructions to Pupils

1. Write your Name, Class and Index No. in the space provided above.
2. Do not turn over this page until you are told to do so.
3. Follow all instructions carefully.
4. Answer all questions.
5. Shade your answers in the Optical Answer Sheet (OAS) provided for questions 1 to 30 only.

Section A : Comprehension (Graphic Stimulus) (5 x 1 mark)

Study the details of a writing competition which appeared in a magazine carefully and then answer questions 1 to 5.

Write and Win 2010

The title for the month of April:

MOTHER, I  YOU !

Take part in this annual writing competition.

Win attractive prizes !

1st Prize
\$200
and a Dining
Voucher worth
\$300

2nd Prize
\$100
and a Dining
Voucher worth
\$200

3rd Prize
\$50
and a Dining
Voucher
worth **\$100**

Specially-designed Mother's Day
Cards by **Creative Arts Club**

Free for the first 50 participants

Category	Age	Minimum Length of Composition
A	7 - 9	100 words
B	10 - 12	150 words
C	13 - 15	200 words
D	16 - 18	300 words

Consolation prizes:

10 beautifully-designed and handmade aprons

- ❖ Send in as many compositions as you wish
- ❖ Submit your entries to the nearest **NTUC** supermarket
- ❖ Each composition must be accompanied by an entry form found on the back of **Creative Arts Club** magazine. Write your particulars on the entry form.
- ❖ All entries must reach Creative Arts Club before 15 May 2010. Late entries will not be accepted.

Organised by **Creative Arts Club** (88, Lorong Asam, Singapore 335335)

Cash prizes and Dining Vouchers donated by **Popular Insurance Company**

Aprons contributed by **Care Group Community Club**

For each question from 1 to 5, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

1. The organiser of this writing competition is _____.
 - (1) Creative Arts Club
 - (2) NTUC Supermarket
 - (3) Popular Insurance Company
 - (4) Care Group Community Club

2. The main aim of the 'Write and Win 2010' competition is to encourage young people to _____.
 - (1) read widely
 - (2) appreciate their loved ones
 - (3) win prizes for their loved ones
 - (4) shop at their favourite supermarket

3. Lizzie, who will turn thirteen in December, wants to take part in the competition. She needs to write at least _____ to qualify for the competition.
 - (1) 100 words
 - (2) 150 words
 - (3) 200 words
 - (4) 300 words

4. A student who wins \$100 will also have a dining voucher worth _____.
 - (1) \$50
 - (2) \$100
 - (3) \$200
 - (4) \$300

5. The composition must be sent in _____.
 - (1) through the school
 - (2) with the completed entry form
 - (3) with a Creative Arts Club magazine
 - (4) through Care Group Community Club

Section B : Grammar (7 X 1 mark)

For each question from 6 to 12, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

6. _____ she was disappointed with her results, she did not complain.
- (1) Since
 - (2) Unless
 - (3) Despite
 - (4) Although
7. I think you must _____ what I have told you.
- (1) forgot
 - (2) forgotten
 - (3) had forgotten
 - (4) have forgotten
8. The motorist sped _____ the red light and knocked down a pedestrian who was crossing the road.
- (1) past
 - (2) pass
 - (3) passes
 - (4) passed
9. It rained _____ December and into the first half of January.
- (1) over
 - (2) along
 - (3) through
 - (4) between
10. The children found it difficult to _____ their disappointment when the trip to Malaysia was suddenly called off.
- (1) get into
 - (2) get over
 - (3) get away
 - (4) get through

11. If I had been informed earlier, I _____ signed the agreement.

- (1) will not
- (2) would not
- (3) will not have
- (4) would not have

12. Jane, together with her accomplices, _____ called on stage to make a public apology last Friday.

- (1) were
- (2) was
- (3) are
- (4) is

Section C : Punctuation (3 X 1 mark)

For each question from 13 to 15, choose the correct punctuation to complete the passage. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

The doorbell rang. "I'll get it (13) I yelled as I leapt off the bright-red sofa I was lying on. Looking through the peep-hole, I saw a tall and lanky man with a moustache standing at the doorstep. I opened the door just in time to hear a "Who's at the door(14) coming from my mother, who was busy vacuuming her room. Before I could reply (15) my mother had already turned off the vacuum cleaner and started walking towards me.

13. (1) [,] comma
(2) [.] full stop
(3) [?] question mark and inverted commas
(4) [!] exclamation mark and inverted commas
14. (1) [,] comma
(2) [?] question mark
(3) [, "] comma and inverted commas
(4) [? "] question mark and inverted commas
15. (1) [:] colon
(2) [,] comma
(3) [.] full stop
(4) [;] semi-colon

Section D: Vocabulary (5 × 1 mark)

For each question from 16 to 20, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1,2,3 or 4). Shade the correct number in the Optical Answer Sheet.

16. Before the painting was bought, it was _____ by the buyer.
- (1) probed
 - (2) haggled
 - (3) perceived
 - (4) scrutinised
17. It is _____ to bring a compass whenever one hikes in an unfamiliar area.
- (1) crucial
 - (2) explicable
 - (3) superfluous
 - (4) hypothetical
18. The politician's corruption was _____ to the public by the media and that brought about his downfall.
- (1) detected
 - (2) ridiculed
 - (3) exposed
 - (4) extracted
19. As Jason knew about his father's soft spot, he never failed to take _____ of it to get what he wanted.
- (1) care
 - (2) hold
 - (3) heart
 - (4) advantage
20. Marian refused to give in and _____ her principles throughout the whole meeting.
- (1) adhered to
 - (2) called upon
 - (3) succumbed to
 - (4) revolted against

Section E : Vocabulary Cloze (5 x 1 mark)

For each question from 21 to 25, choose the word(s) closest in meaning to the underlined words. Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

I was relieved when school commenced that week. Students with new notebooks and sharpened pencils in hand ambled about the courtyard, kicking up dust, chatting in groups, waiting for the class captains' whistles. Father drove down the dirt lane that led to the entrance. Most of the boys walked to school, and Father's black Mercedes drew more than one envious look. I should have been beaming with pride when he dropped me off but all I could muster was a mild form of embarrassment. That and emptiness. Father drove away without saying good-bye.

I bypassed the customary comparing of kite-flying scars and stood in line. The bell rang and we marched to our assigned class, filed in in pairs. I sat in the back row. As the English Language teacher handed out our textbooks, I prayed for a heavy load of homework.

School gave me an excuse to stay in my room for long hours. And, for a while, it took my mind off what happened that winter, what I had let happen. For a few weeks, I was engrossed in my school work instead of thinking about Hassan and what had happened to him. However, my mind returned to the scene and Hassan's teary face.

Adapted from The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

21. (1) sprinted
(2) hobbled
(3) pranced
(4) wandered

22. (1) jealous
(2) serene
(3) haunting
(4) indifferent

23. (1) instigate
(2) provide
(3) deploy
(4) gather

- 24 (1) avoided
(2) opposed
(3) stimulated
(4) challenged

25. (1) confined
(2) immersed
(3) submerged
(4) surrendered

Section E : Comprehension MCQ (5 X 1 mark)

Read the passage below and answer questions 26 to 30.

<p>Turbulent muddy water pressed against him, making it hard to breathe despite the oxygen tank strapped to his back. Inching his way forward with a 60-metre lifeline, his only tether to safety, Abdul was 15 metres under the flooding Padma River in Bangladesh, searching for dead bodies trapped in a sunken ferry. On that dive in May 2005, Abdul found seven bodies pinned against a grill, before being pulled back to the rescue boat.</p>	5
<p>"I thought I was going to die from the crush of the water," said the 39-year-old diver for the Bangladeshi fire service, "but it would be a shame if I came back empty-handed."</p>	
<p>Over 100,000 people use ferries each day to traverse Bangladesh's more than 230 rivers. Overcrowded and often less than seaworthy, the ferries run into trouble in the monsoon when the rivers are flooded and filled with debris. The power of the water, plus the fact that most of the passengers cannot swim, means there is little hope of pulling anyone out alive when a ferry sinks.</p>	10
<p>For the past 15 years, Abdul had risked his own life to return as many bodies as possible so that grieving families could have a proper burial.</p>	15
<p>"I love helping my fellow human beings in times of tragedy," admitted the father of a twin boy and girl, "I'm not afraid but I tell my colleagues that if I die, to send my body to my family."</p>	
<p>Born on the banks of the Salda River northeast of the capital Dhaka, Abdul had always been a strong swimmer and immediately answered an advertisement for fire service divers when a relative showed it to him in 1990. Told that he should move to the Gulf states to become a commercial diver and earn more money, the devout Muslim decided he liked the challenge of going where others would not dare to go.</p>	20
<p>"He is exposed to diseases and infections from the polluted waters as well as many other health problems from diving repeatedly during rescue operations. So many times I have thought he was going to die," said Dilip Kumar Gosh, Abdul's commander at the Siddique Bazar Fire Station office in Dhaka.</p>	25
<p>Adapted from http://www.rdasia.com/going where others don't dare</p>	

For each question from 26 to 30, four options are given. One of them is the correct answer. Make your choice (1, 2, 3 or 4). Shade the correct oval (1, 2, 3 or 4) on the Optical Answer Sheet.

26. Abdul risked his life by diving into the turbulent muddy water to _____.
- (1) put out fires on ferries
 - (2) salvage sunken ferries
 - (3) repair damaged ferries
 - (4) search for trapped dead bodies
27. Most people use the ferries daily to commute because _____.
- (1) they are new and safe to travel on
 - (2) there are hundreds of rivers in Bangladesh
 - (3) they do not run into trouble in the monsoon
 - (4) the passengers on board are good swimmers
28. The phrase "**but it would be a shame if I came back empty-handed**" in lines 8 and 9 means that Abdul _____.
- (1) was ashamed of his meagre pay
 - (2) regretted diving for the Bangladeshi fire service
 - (3) was determined to find survivors or dead bodies
 - (4) would be humiliated if he did not survive the rescue attempt
29. Which of the following statements is not true about Abdul's job?
- (1) It gives him a challenge when doing it.
 - (2) It pays better than a commercial diver's salary.
 - (3) He could die anytime during an operation.
 - (4) He risks getting health problems in the long run.
30. The best adjective to describe Abdul is _____.
- (1) cynical
 - (2) selfless
 - (3) pessimistic
 - (4) materialistic

BOOKLET B

Name: _____ () P5 ()

Section G : Structural Cloze (10 X 1 mark)

There are 10 blanks, numbered 31 to 40, in the passage below. From the list of words given, choose the most suitable word for each blank. Write its letter (A to Q) in the blank. The letters (I) and (O) have been omitted to avoid confusion during marking.

EACH WORD CAN BE USED ONLY ONCE.

(A) above	(D) because	(G) or	(K) though	(N) what
(B) against	(E) during	(H) out	(L) unless	(P) where
(C) along	(F) for	(J) then	(M) until	(Q) with

Every year, the Christmas holidays are usually a bore, (31) _____ last year, when my family and I went to India to visit my grandparents. It was a happy reunion (32) _____ we had not seen our grandparents (33) _____ quite a long time.

We wanted to enjoy the beauty of Kerala, so we hired a big van and toured the country (34) _____ my cousins. We started (35) _____ early one Saturday morning and it was great fun for we joked or sang on the way.

First, we went to Tekadi, a holiday resort. On our way there, we had to travel (36) _____ winding roads amid high mountains and deep valleys. As we got higher and higher, I began to feel as if I was on top of the world. It was truly breathtaking to be so high up (37) _____ the world and feeling close to God. The cool, fresh air refreshed us (38) _____ we were a bit exhausted.

On our way, we saw women picking tea-leaves and we also stopped at a tea factory. At last, we reached Tekadi, a nature reserve, (39) _____ wild animals roam about freely in the jungle. We were taken on a boat ride, on a lake amidst the hilly forests, (40) _____ which we saw wild animals like elephants, zebras, wolves and deer coming out of the thick forests to drink the cool water of the lake.

Section H: Editing for Spelling and Grammar (10 × 1 mark)

Correct each word in bold for spelling and each underlined word for grammar. Write the correct word in the relevant box.

Glass is a very useful substance. It is a hard, manufactured solid with

41)

42)

transparent **poperties**. Glass is used for a **varyaty** of purposes. Some of its uses

43)

44)

include the making in bulbs, bottles, windows, **spektekle** lenses and even certain types of

45)

furniture. Microscopes on examining minute things and telescopes for studying the heavenly

46)

bodies is also made of glass.

47)

48)

Glass can come at thin or thick sizes. Its use **ditarmines** its shape and

49)

size. When we walk through a **labretory**, we will find almost all containers made out of

glass.

Glass can also be recycled. Glass recycling is the process of turning waste

50)

glass for usable products. Glass recycling uses less energy than producing glass from sand,

lime and soda.

Section I: Comprehension Cloze Passage (15 × 1 mark)

Fill in each blank with the most suitable word.

Gambling addicts who fear that they may put themselves at risk if they enter the two upcoming casinos here can get themselves banned from them. All they have to do is _____ up online at www.knowtheline.sg. The move is the latest of several
51
taken by the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) to try and ensure that the opening of the casinos does not give _____ to a flood of social problems.
52

The NCPG realises that few people will sign up, given the low take-up _____ in other countries with similar measures, such as the United States
53
and Australia, and the fact that many addicts refuse or fail to realise they have a gambling _____ . However, it is adopting the move anyway and views it as
54
_____ of a wider approach that will help pre-empt problems in future.
55

In April, for example, families were allowed to apply to bar their loved ones from the casinos if they can _____ to counsellors and a committee appointed by the
56
NCPG, how the gambler's actions have hurt them.

The government-funded NCPG will also _____ the step of
57
automatically banning between 25,000 _____ 29,000 undischarged bankrupts
58
and those on the government's public assistance scheme from the casinos. The casinos here will have to _____ that those who are banned do not enter their
59
premises. If they _____ to do so, they can be fined up to \$100,000.
60

For gamblers _____ bar themselves, the ban is valid for a minimum of
61
one year and remains in force unless they _____ out. Counsellors interviewed
62
by The Straits Times said that gamblers who want to prove to their families they are _____ about kicking the habit are the ones most likely to get themselves
63
banned.

Reverend Edward Job, executive director of the Christian Care Services, said some of the men he is counselling have expressed an _____ in doing so. Public
64
awareness of gambling addiction and of where to _____ help has increased,
65
council member, Mildred Tan said.

Adapted from the Straits Times, Friday, 27 November 2009

Section J: Transformation / Synthesis (5 x 2 marks)

For each of the questions 66 to 70, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

66. You must concentrate during lessons. You will be able to understand the topic.

Unless _____

67. Mr Ali continued working hard. He was unwell.

Although _____

68. Jane is my cousin. I share a room with her.

_____ whom _____

69. Susan gave her old clothes to charity. Susan had outgrown her old clothes.

Since _____

70. "I want this teddy bear for my birthday," Belinda told her parents.

Belinda told her parents _____

Section K: Comprehension Open-Ended (10 × 2 marks)

Read the passage and answer the questions 71 to 80.

There was a big commotion in our class. Amanda, the best speaker of our class, was our class representative to the annual Impromptu Speech Contest. Everyone was getting anxious as Amanda had still not turned up for school that day. Unfortunately, she was rushed to the hospital the previous night due to an acute attack of asthma. The contest was to be held that very day. Amanda's eloquence made her a sure winner. Furthermore, my teacher had said, "Amanda is very well-read. She can easily come up with a perfect speech on the spot." Naturally, everyone had faith in Amanda to win the trophy and do our class proud.

5

A little while later, our teacher walked into the class. By the look on her face, we could immediately predict the outcome. She said in a resigned voice, "Class, Amanda is hospitalised and won't be discharged today. I'm afraid we'll have to withdraw from the contest unless we can find a substitute to represent our class." I sat rooted in my seat as thirty-nine pairs of eyes **stared at me**.

10

"But... but... I am not prepared," I said stumbling over my words. Suddenly, **an idea struck me**. "Surely... surely you won't want m... me to ss... stammer like this? I h... hh... have stage fright. I will g... gg... get nervous and I will ss... stammer," I said, hoping the stutter sounded real. My teacher walked up to me and said, "Claire, we depend on you to get the trophy for us." Realising the futility of arguing with anyone, I gave in. At that very moment, thunderous claps resounded in the classroom.

15

Soon, it was time for the Primary Five students to assemble in the hall. The contestants were asked to report at the meeting room for a briefing. My knees were practically knocking against each other. "Mum, I wish I can call you in this time of need. Your soothing voice and encouraging words never fail to give me strength and calm me down," I said to myself, wishing **she** was beside me, holding my hand.

20

All the contestants were asked to sit in the meeting room and wait for our turns to go on stage. This was to ensure fairness in the contest. A teacher reminded us on the rules and informed us that we would all be given the same topic. A prefect would be sent to bring each contestant to the hall when her name was called out.

25

I was the sixth contestant. The moment I stepped into the hall, my classmates cheered for me. I told myself to do my best. Mustering my courage, I made my way to the stage. The compere read out the topic I had to talk about. As soon as the topic was announced, my nervousness seemed to fade away. I started addressing the audience confidently and shared my thoughts and views with conviction. When I ended my speech, waves of applause broke out. I left the stage and joined the other contestants who had already spoken. I was all smiles and I felt a deep sense of satisfaction.

30

35

As the rest of the contestants took their turns, I thought they spoke as well as, or even better than I did. Finally, the last contestant completed her speech. Worry and anxiety overwhelmed me as I waited for the results to be announced. We were called on stage again. My heart skipped a beat. My fingers gripped the hem of my skirt. Every muscle in my body tensed. I tried to hum a tune. The voice of the compere boomed, "We have an eloquent speaker as the winner and she is none other than Claire Tan!" Everyone in the hall clapped for me. A wave of glory swept over me and I stood there triumphantly, waving my gleaming trophy in the air. I knew I would never forget that wonderful moment.

40

Name: _____ ()

P5 ()

Answer questions 71-80 in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

71. Why was there a big commotion in class?

72. What made the teacher select Amanda to be the class representative for the contest?

73. Why did the class stare at the writer in line 13?

74. What was the idea that struck the writer in line 15?

75. How would the writer's call to her mother calm her down before the contest?

76. Who does 'she' in line 24 refer to?

77. Why was it fair that all the contestants were kept in the meeting room to wait for their turns to go on stage?

78. Which sentence tells you that the writer was pleased with her speech on stage?

79. Which word in the passage has the same meaning as 'held tightly'?

80. How did the writer feel before the contest results were announced?

END OF PAPER

Setters:
Mrs Jessie Goh
Mdm Prisca Fernandes
Mdm Mehmutha Beevi Kutus

RGPS EL 2010 SA1 P5 Answer key

Q1	1
Q2	2
Q3	2
Q4	3
Q5	3

Q26	3
Q27	4
Q28	2
Q29	2
Q30	3

Q6	4
Q7	4
Q8	1
Q9	3
Q10	2
Q11	4
Q12	1

Q31	M
Q32	D
Q33	F
Q34	Q
Q35	J
Q36	C
Q37	A
Q38	L
Q39	P
Q40	E

Q13	4
Q14	4
Q15	2
Q16	3
Q17	1
Q18	2
Q19	2
Q20	1

Q21	4
Q22	1
Q23	4
Q24	1
Q25	2

Q41	properties
Q42	variety
Q43	of
Q44	spectacle

Q45	for
Q46	are
Q47	in
Q48	determines
Q49	laboratory
Q50	into
Q51	sign
Q52	rise
Q53	rate
Q54	problem
Q55	part
Q56	prove
Q57	take/implement
Q58	and
Q59	ensure
Q60	fail/refuse
Q61	who/that
Q62	opt
Q63	serious
Q64	interest
Q65	seek

Section J

66. Unless you concentrate during lessons, you will not be able to understand the topic. .
67. Although Mr Ali was unwell, he continued working hard. .
68. Jane whom I share a room with is my cousin.
69. It has been two months since I met Linda at Joe's wedding dinner. .
70. Belinda told her parents that she wanted that teddy bear for her birthday. .

Section H

71. Everyone was anxious as Amanda was the class representative to the annual impromptu speech which was held that day (1m) and she was absent from school. (1 mark)
 Everyone was anxious that Amanda had still not turned up for school that day. (1 mark)

72. Amanda was eloquent in giving a speech, was very well-read and could easily come up with a perfect speech on the spot.

73. The class felt that the writer was the most suitable substitute to replace Amanda (2 marks) The class wanted the writer to represent the class for the impromptu speech, (2 marks)

74. He decided to stammer/ stutter (1 mark) to show the class that he was not prepared to represent the class for the contest/ to show the class that he had stage fright/ to show the class that he would stammer when he was nervous. (1 mark)

75. She wanted to hear her mother's soothing voice and encouraging words that gave her strength and calmed her down. (2 marks) She was feeling nervous so she wanted her mum to calm her down. (2 marks).

It was a time of need. (0 mark)

76. All the contestants were talking on the same topic so it was only fair that they did not listen to the contestants who had spoken earlier than them. (2 marks)

77. Yes, she was. (1 mark) The sentence is "I felt a deep sense of satisfaction." (1 mark)

78. The word is 'gripped'.

79. She tried to calm herself. / She wanted to relax herself. / She was feeling nervous so she wanted to calm down by humming a tune. (2 marks)

80. She addressed the audience confidently. She tried to convince the audience with her views and thoughts. She won the competition although she felt that all the speakers had done well. (Any 2 reasons given to be awarded 2 marks)